## Acknowledgements

The Federal Aviation Administration would like to thank other Federal Agencies and their employees for materials used in the development of this guide. Some materials used in preparing this guide were previously developed by the Performance Appraisal Services Division, Office of Personnel Management, and the Bureau of Printing and Engraving, Department of Treasury.

# SUPERVI SOR'S DESK GUIDE for the Federal Aviation Administration's General Performance Appraisal System

Federal Aviation Administration U.S. Department of Transportation May 1981

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How this Guide is organized

Chapter 2 will give you an overview of the system and its major steps. Chapters 3 through 7 each describe a major phase or step in the performance appraisal process. The appendices contain a quick-reference summary of all key steps, details on requirements you must meet and a glossary of terms.

How each chapter is organized

Each of Chapters 3 through 6 follow a similar pattern

- Chapter table of contents
- Chapter overview, including main topics and objectives for the chapter
- Discussion of each major step covered including:
  - -what the step is
  - -what the step does
  - -why it is important
  - -how it relates to other steps
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  - -how to do the step
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How to use this Guide

The following table describes how a supervisor could use this Guide based on his/her needs:

Your Need	Actions
• Initially learn how to implement the FAA system	<ol> <li>Read the entire Desk Guide</li> <li>Practice each step by following the procedures, looking at the examples and evaluating your work with the checklists</li> </ol>
• On-the-job guidance, once you know how to do each each step	<ol> <li>Quickly read Chapters 2-7</li> <li>Use the summary procedures in Appendix A to guide you through the process</li> </ol>
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### CHAPTER OVERVIEW

Introduction

We will begin our discussion of **the** FAA's General Performance Appraisal System with an overview of the system and its intent. Chapters **3-7** will give you the details necessary to implement the system.

What this chapter will cover

Chapter 2 will discuss the purpose, benefits, and steps of the FAA system. In addition, it will discuss the rights and responsibilities of the people involved.

Objectives

At the end of this chapter you will be able to:

- Describe the objectives of the FAA system
- Describe the benefits of the system to the employee
- Describe the responsibilities of the supervisor and employee
- Outline the major steps of the process including
  - -what it is
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SUPERVISORY AND EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Introduction

This section will discuss what steps of the system are assigned to the **first-** and second-level supervisors, and what responsibilities an employee has under the system.

Definitions

<u>Covered employee</u> is an individual who occupies a position in the General Schedule or Federal Wage System which is either:

- below grade 13
- grade 13 or above, but <u>not</u> in the merit pay or senior executive service systems

### Covered supervisor is an individual:

- who occupies a position that is classified no higher than GS-12 and
- whose position is classified under the Supervisory Grade Evaluation Guide (SGEG) as
   "supervisory", or is classified under' the Job Grading Standard for Supervisors (for Federal Wage System Employees) as "supervisory"

Immediate supervisor is the first official level of supervision over a covered employee which has the responsibilities of assigning performance appraisals and recommending awards.

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2. Identify or verify existing critical and other job elements (Chapter 3)	Prior to beginning of each appraisal period	Chance to organize the job into a few key areas where performance is important	Identifies a list of 7 or less elements for which performance standards will be developed	Allows the supervisor flexibility in <b>empha</b> -sizing parts of the job the employee will be evaluated on
3. Write or verify existing performance standards (Chapter 4)	Prior to beginning of each appraisal period	Chance to identify objective measures and expected levels of performance	Creates a list of standards which will be used to evaluate employee performance	Spells out concretely what the supervisor expects of the employee
4. Conduct initial interview (Chapter 4)	Month 1	Chance to discuss performance standards with the employee	Gets employee's commitment to the standards he/she will be evaluated on	Prevents surprises at year's end and gives the employee a clear set of expectations to meet
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Chapter two discussed the objectives of the system; and the benefits to the employee of knowing what is expected and being evaluated on objective criteria were summarized. The responsibilities of the employee and the first- and second-level supervisor were outlined. Finally, the steps of the process were summarized and the stage set for discussing each step in detail.

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# CHAPTER 3 Analyzing the Employee's Position

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- Analyzing the Employee's Position, and
- Developing Performance Standards

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Chapter 3 will deal with three main topics:

- Reviewing the Employee's Position Description
- Identifying Job Elements
- Weighting Job Elements

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At the end of this chapter you will be able to:

- Decide if an employee's Position Description is accurate and valid
- Revise the Position Description, if necessary
- Develop a list of work tasks from the Position Description
- Reduce this list of work tasks to a manageable number
- Designate Critical and Other Job Elements
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Exhibit 1 on pages 24-25 is a sample Position Description for an FAA Electronics Technician, GS-856-11. Exhibit 2 on page 26 is a list of work tasks, activities and dutie extracted from the P.D. in Exhibit 1.

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Aeronautical Systems Division Field Maintenance Branch

Department of Transportation Federal Aviation Administration Electronics Technician GS-11, Series 856

I. <u>Position Summary</u>. The Aeronautical Systems Division executes a maintenance program and maintains all facilities in the sector, including environmental support equipment, so as to assure performance that satisfies tolerances of accuracy and meets operational requirements in terms of availability and reliability.

The purpose of this position is:

- 1. To analyze, evaluate, and certify systems/subsystems/equipment performance.
- 2. To recognize, identify, and correct equipment malfunctions.
- **3.** To perform **routine** maintenance duties **on** full electronic systems in operational settings.

## II. Principal Duties and Responsibilities

- 1. The incumbent is assigned as a Electronics Technician.
- 2. The technical work assignments relate to systems/subsystems/equipment as assigned. (The incumbent of this position may be subject to the successful completion of training on the functioning of field systems of a higher order, or on changes or modifications to higher-order systems, cited as work assignments at this grade. This continued training is accomplished through assignment to one or more of the agency's training programs, which may include resident and/or nonresident prerequisite courses.)
- **3.** Other technical duties and responsibilities may be assigned if assigned systems/sub-systems/equipment does not constitute a full person-year workload. Certifications may be required for these other technical duties and responsibilities assigned by the Sector Manager.
- **4.** The following are typical examples of duty assignments related to the performance of assigned systems/subsystems/equipment.
  - a. Certifies normal operation of system and/or subsystems of higher order assigned.

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Analysis and Evaluation of System Failures	I-2
Adjustment and Alignment of Circuitry	<b>1-</b> 3
Initiation of Action to Correct System Failures	11-4
Periodic Certification of Equipment Performance	II-1
Restoration of System Performance to Standard Specifications	II-/
Recertification That Repaired Equipment Meets Advertised Standards of Performance	II-1
Maintains Individual Technical Certifications Regarding State-of-the-Art Advances in Systems'/Subsystems' Equipment Design, Maintenance, and Modifications	II-:
Accomplishes Approved Equipment Modifications	11-1
Provides On-the-Job Training of Lower-Level Technicians	11-4
Maintains Logs <b>and</b> Various 'Records of Systems Inspections, Evaluations, Maintenance, Modifications, and Certifications	II:
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IDENTIFYING JOB ELEMENTS

## GROUPING COMMON WORK TASKS

Example (cont'd)

Types of job element headings

Second example

These work tasks could have been grouped together and addressed by expressing the one element common to all, i.e., planning. In highly specialized positions, you may find it necessary to group together work activities requiring special technical or research-related skills, knowledges or abilities (for example, radar repair/installation, maintaining operational proficiency in the control of air traffic, etc).

Your final list of job element headings can be made up of two types of elements:

- elements encompassing <u>several</u> common work tasks, activities or duties .
- elements reflecting a <u>single</u> work task, activity or duty which are not sufficiently related to any other aspect of the job to warrant a grouping

Exhibits 3 and 4 show the two-stage process of first, labeling tasks and then regrouping them using the labels

In Exhibit 3 each task, activity or duty was assigned to a group using the following headings:

Group Letter	Heading Name
A	System Performance
В	System Repair/Modification
С	Individual Technical Certification
D	On-the-Job Training

Exhibit 4 shows the tasks re-organized under each headir

IDENTIFYING JOB ELEMENTS

## GROUPING COMMON WORK TASKS

Example (cont'd)

Types of job element headings

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#### DENTIFYING JOB ELEMENTS

#### ROUPING COMMON WORK TASKS

# ow to 0 it

Step	Procedure
1.	List work tasks
2.	Read the list of work tasks and assign a unique letter of the alphabet to each task. This letter stands for a similar work activity or requirement of similar skills, knowledge or ability.
3.	Recopy all tasks with the same letter in separate lists labeled Group A, Group ${\bf B}$ , etc.
4.	Read the tasks listed in each group and decide what word or phrase des- cribes what these tasks have in common.
5.	Write that key word or phrase as the group heading.

ow to
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our list
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- cl The heading describes the important features of significant work tasks, activities and duties within the group.
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#### **IDENTIFYING JOB ELEMENTS**

#### DESIGNATING CRITICAL AND OTHER JOB ELEMENTS

#### Requirements

- The <u>immediate supervisor</u> MUST establish **CJEs** and, MAY establish **OJEs** for each covered position within his/her organization.
- No more than 7 job elements may be established for a position.
- At least one critical job element must be established for each position.
- No more than seven critical job elements may be established for a position.
- No more than two other job elements may be established for a position.

Example

For our Electronics Technician position, the supervisor has made the following designations:

Joh Fl	Type lement
System Per nce	JE
System Repair odification	JE
Individual Technical Centification	CJE
On-the-Job Training	OJE

How to do the step

Step	Procedure
1.	Compare each element listed to the definition of a Critical Job Element.
2.	Write <b>CJE</b> next to each element that fits the definition.
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CHAPTER SUMMARY

#### Summary

This chapter discussed the three steps of analyzing the employee's position:

- Reviewing the Employee's Position Description
- Identifying Job Elements
- Weighting Job Elements

You learned how to determine if an employee's P.D. is accurate and valid. You learned how to create a list of work tasks from the P.D. and reduce the list to a manageable number by grouping common work tasks. Finally, you learned how to designate critical and othe job elements and weight the importance of each. You ar now ready to write objective performance standards for each of the job elements.

Note

Appendix A contains a summary of all of the procedures and checklists detailed in this chapter. You will find this quick summary a helpful aid to remembering all of the steps and how to evaluate your work.

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#### VRITING A PERFORMANCE STANDARD

Definition	A performance standard is the expressed level of achieve- ment established by management for the duties and responsi- bilities of a POSITION (not a person). Standards may include, but are not limited to, such elements as quantity, quality and timeliness.
What the step does	This step clarifies for the supervisor and the employee exactly what performance is expected for each job element.
why it is important	Writing the performance standard documents the supervisor's expectations and reduces the possibility of future misunderstandings.
How it relates to other components of the system	The performance standard is the basis for:  o directing and controlling the employee's activities o coaching to improve the employee's performance o evaluating the employee's performance o taking further management action
Note	Management action is required if an employee fails to meet

Management action is <u>required</u> if an employee fails to meet the standard(s) set for a Critical Job Element. This failure will result in denial of a within grade increase, and may result in the employee's removal from the position.

Performance standards must be established in advance for those work activities identified as important to the accomplishment of details and/or special project assignments when an individual detail or assignment of 120 days or more is initiated during the appraisal period.

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ITING A PERFORMANCE STANDARD

 $\underline{\textbf{1:LE}}$  Criteria for judging a performance standard

Criteria	Description					
Measurable	The standard contains one or more of the following types of measures.  - quantity - how much, how many - quality - how accurate, how well - timeliness - within what time frame, by what date - impact - how job will affect organization's mission - manner of - how well something is to be done performance					
Clear	The standard is written in terms that are clear, uncomplicated and concise.					
Realistic	The standard is consistent with the content and scope of the position description. It is reasonably set (neither too high or too low.)					
Attainable	The standard can be attained by the employee given <b>the</b> authority and resources over which he/she has control (e.g., personnel, budget, time).					
Current	The standard reflects the existing and/or continuing priorities of the organization and/or rating officia If the priorities change, then the performance standard must also be changed and the change communicate					
Useful	The standard will generate work results that are positive, significant contributions to the functions policies and procedures of the work group and the organization.					
Equitable	The standard is equivalent to those written for work in similar positions that have similar  • duties  • responsibilities  • skill requirements  • work environments  • performance expectations					

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#### EXHIBIT 6

#### SAMPLE JOB ELEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE STANDARD FOR FAA SUPERVISOR

#### INDIVIDUAL/SUPERVISORY RESPONSIBILITY - 45% (CJE)

#### Selected Work Tasks for Developing Subordinates

## 1. Training-Provides training and development so that employees may meet performance re-

quirement/expectations and/or progress on

the job.

2. Evaluating-Performs employee performance appraisals.

Performance Standards

- 1. Identifies training needs and plans developmental activities for all employees This will be indicated by the preparation of a written individual development plan for each employee by a date 60 days into the appraisal peric
- 2. Provides all employees with a constructive annual performance appraisal and at least one formal progress review during the appraisal period. Each appraisal will be "constructive" if it:
  - reviews strengths and weaknesses
  - identifies weaknesses ir terms of performance deficiencies
  - explores reasons for the weakness
  - creates a mutually agree upon plan to eliminate the weakness
- 3. Recognizes noteworthy performance through appropriate awards and/or other methods c recognition as indicated by supervisor's judgment.

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3. Coaching and Counseling-Advises employees regarding their performance strengths and weaknesses in the context of work unit objectives.

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COMMUNICATING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

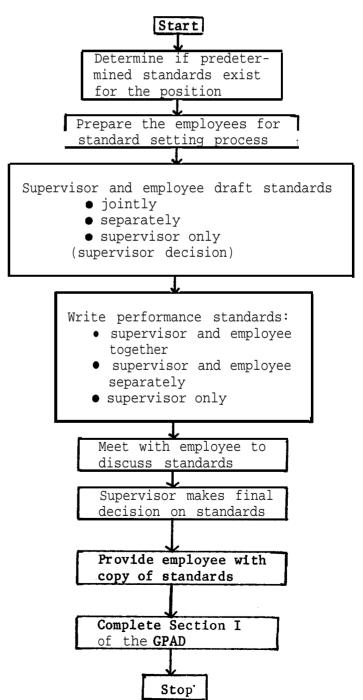
Note

The supervisor has final responsibility for:

- determining an employee's performance standards
- communicating the standards, in writing, to the employee at the beginning of the appraisal year. (No specific form is required)

If a change in supervision occurs, then it is recommended that the process of **communicating** performance standards be repeated. If an employee changes position or work activities, new standards must be established and communicated to the **employe** 

Overview of the steps in communicating performance



COMMUNICATING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

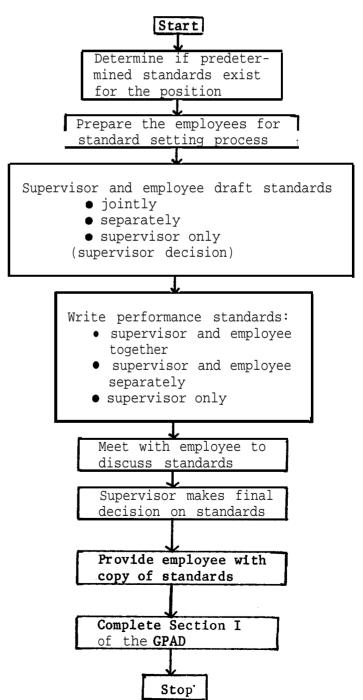
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#### COMMUNICATING PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

How to communicate performance standards

Step	Procedure
6.	Complete Section I of the General Performance Appraisal Document. The instructions are on the document.

Note

. It is recommended that you use plain paper to record the standards rather than the **GPAD** form. Throughout the appraisal period this will let you make any necessary revisions without having to waste forms. When you make your final ratings you will not have to recopy the standards, you will be able to **staple** the plain paper to the **GPAD** form.

Evaluation checklist

☐ Jobs screened for pre-determined objectives
☐ Employee prepared for standard setting process
☐ Employee prepared to write own standards (optional)
☐ Standards written for each job element
☐ Standards discussed with employee
☐ Approved standards written, signed, dated and copied
☐ Copy of approved standards given to employee
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# CHAPTER 5 Conducting Performance Reviews

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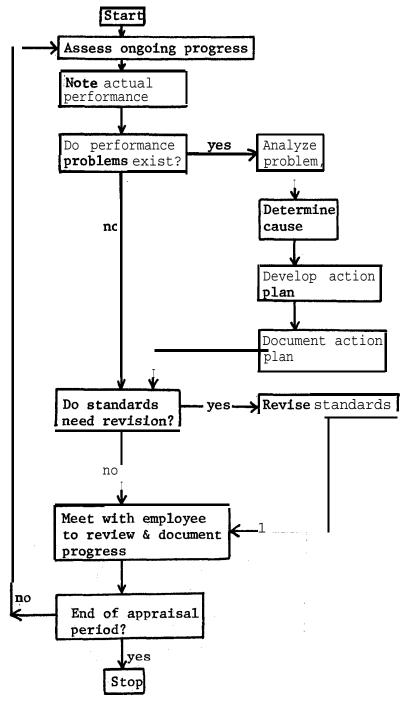
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CHAPTER OVERVIEW

#### Overview of the steps in conducting performance reviews

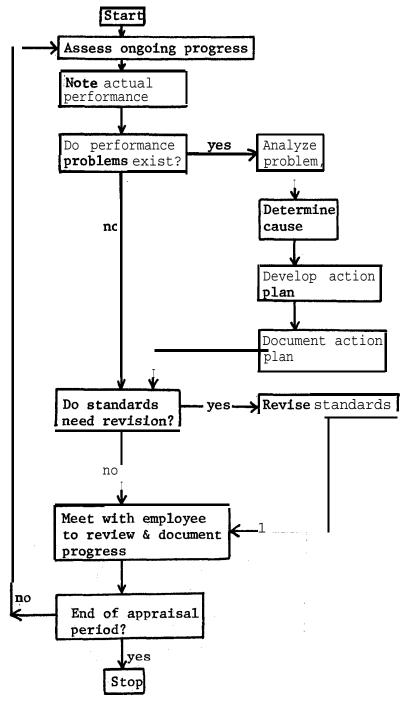


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This flowchart shows one way to prepare for a progress review meeting. For ease of presentation, this chapter is organized to follow the logic of the flowchart. However, in practice, a supervisor could have several meetings, one to give feedback on actual performance, one to develop plans for improving weak performance, one to revise performance standards and one to conduct a formal progress review.

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#### ASSESSING PERFORMANCE

What this step is	Assessing the employee's performance is the first step in conducting a progress review. It involves comparing demonstrated performance against the performance standard and documenting the actual performance.
What this step does	This step provides the supervisor with information that <b>tel</b> ] whether or not the employee is achieving the performance standard.
Why it is important	This information will be used to determine whether a performance problem exists, and as the basis for feedback to the employee about his/her performance.
How it relates to other components of the system	This information will serve as a memory-jogger to make the end-of-the-year performance rating more reliable and valid.

How to assess performance

Step	Procedure
Optional .	Consider making a few personal notes regarding the employee's progress towards his/her standards immediately after assigning accountability for the standard.  - the notes should reflect demonstrated progress - some of the information can be collected by the employee on some form of tally sheet which should be checked periodicall by the supervisor - data collected by the supervisor should be based on observed performance
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(continued on next page)

		DATE OF INTERVIEW:					
Employee's Name:James P. Fixet	Supervisor's Name: Sidney G. Sector	11/3/81 DATE COPY PROVIDED					
Position Title: Electronics Technician	Organization: <u>Aeronautical Systems Division</u>	EMPLOYEE: 11/9/81					
Performance Appraisal Period:	Period Supervised Employee:	PROGRESS REVIEW PERIOD					
FROM: <u>7/1/81 : 6/</u> 30/82	FROM: <u>8/1/75</u> т <u>о: presen</u> t	FROM: TO: 7/1/81 11/2/8]					
SUPERVIS	SORY ASSESSMENT/COMMENTS						
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• Jim will devote more time to Preventive Maintenance by rearranging his schedule and by my assigning a second trainee to his team. P.M. is expected to be at or above national average by the next review in March, 1982.							

FAA Form 3400-12 (8-81) OFFICIAL COPY PAGE

Employee's Name:	Supervisor's Name: Sidney G. Sector  Organization: Aeronautical Systems Division  Period Supervised Employee:  FROM: 8/1/75 TO: present	DATE OF INTERVIEW:  11/3/81 DATE COPY PROVIDED EMPLOYEE: 11/9/81 PROGRESS REVIEW PERIOD  FROM: TO: 7/1/81 11/2/81				
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# SUPERVISORY ASSESSMENT/COMMENTS ☐ OJE <u>Individual Technical Certification</u> CTE CTE • Jim is fully certified in all assigned systems/subsystems. · Has excellent knowledge of procedures and equipment within assignment areas. • Successfully completed 2-week TRACON update training program. • Requested that Jim attend RVR training programs so as to assume additional sector responsibilities 9/2/81. • Excellent emergency actions taken when transmitter went down. PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT • Attend the RVR training course, December 3-15, in Houston. SUPERVISORY ASSESSMENT/COMMENTS ☑ OJEOn-the-job\_training . CJE • Jim has trained Bill Young to be a top-notch technician. • Jim has given me excellent information on training courses and who would benefit from them, especially in Bill's case. PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT

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TAKING PLANNED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Introduction

The supervisor should take planned corrective action when the employee's actual performance does not meet the performance standard.

What the step is

Taking planned corrective action is the process of:

- identifying the performance weakness
- determining the cause of the performance weakness
- developing an action plan to improve the employee's performance

What it does

With this step the supervisor provides a motivating atmosphere and the extra help for the employees to achieve the results expected of them. The responsibility for achieving work results and meeting expected levels of performance will then rest entirely with the employees.

Note

The <u>time frame</u> for improving performance is critical. An employee <u>must</u> be given an opportunity to correct any performance weaknesses or deficiencies which may adversely impact upon his/her annual performance rating. The amount of time necessary to provide a reasonable opportunity for improving performance will depend on the circumstances in each case and will be determined by the employee's immediate supervisor.

How to take planned corrective action

Step	Procedure				
1.	Identify the standards which the employee has not met.				
2. I	etermine the cause(s) of the low performance on each standard.  • Causes related to the <a href="mailto:employee">employee</a> might include:  - skill level too low  - knowledge level too low  - motivation to perform too low  - personal problems interfering with performance				

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TAKING PLANNED CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

Step	Procedure			
5.	Document the action plans. This means:     write the plan(s) on plain paper or on the periodic progress review worksheet     date and sign the plan     have the employee sign the plan     give a copy to the employee     note on your copy the date the employee received the copy     retain your copy, along with the position description, for one year after completion of the General Performance Appraisal Document for that appraisal period.			

Evaluation checklist

For taking planned correction action:

- Cl Standards identified where actual performance does not meet the standard.
- Cl Causes of performance problem identified.
- Cl Causes separated into employee-related and **environment-** related causes.
- ☐ Action strategies selected for each cause.
- ☐ Action plans developed to improve employee performance.

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#### MEETING WITH THE EMPLOYEE TO REVIEW PROGRESS

### Introduction The supervisor could possibly have three types of feedback to give the employees: • feedback on how the employee's actual performance compared to his/her standards • feedback on any plans they made to take corrective action to improve poor performance • feedback on the performance standards they worked jointly to revise What the This step represents the face-to-face meeting the supervisor has with the employee at least once during the step is appraisal period for the purpose of reviewing progress. What this This meeting allows the supervisor and employee to share step does perceptions of what has occurred to date, and to clarify the expectations for future performance. Why it is Providing periodic performance feedback is potentially important the most productive step in the performance appraisal system.

The supervisor can expect to receive the following benefits from a meaningful, interactive progress review:

- Employees continually know what is expected of them and how well they are performing so that there are no surprises at the end of the appraisal year,
- Employees and work units remain on track toward accomplishing their mission, goals, and objectives.
- Work units usually reflect higher levels of performance achievement.
- Accountability is properly maintained.
- Supervisors become more aware of organizational problems and performance obstacles.

The progress review "meeting" can take several forms.

It can be a one-time meeting where several topics are discussed.

Or, it can be several meetings where one or more different topics are discussed.

The supervisors will determine the best format for the progress review meeting(s) given their situation.

Benefits to the supervisor

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#### HAPTER SUMMARY

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This chapter discussed how to review employee performance using the written performance standards. The steps of assessing performance, taking corrective action if performance is below standard, revising standards and meeting with the employee were covered. These steps occur during the appraisal period as often as they are needed. You are now ready to address the annual appraisal interview which occurs at the end of the appraisal period.

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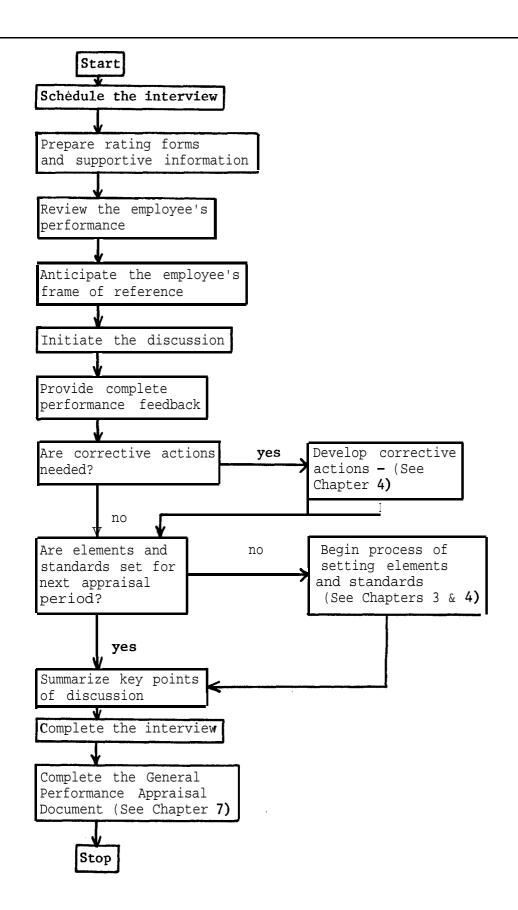
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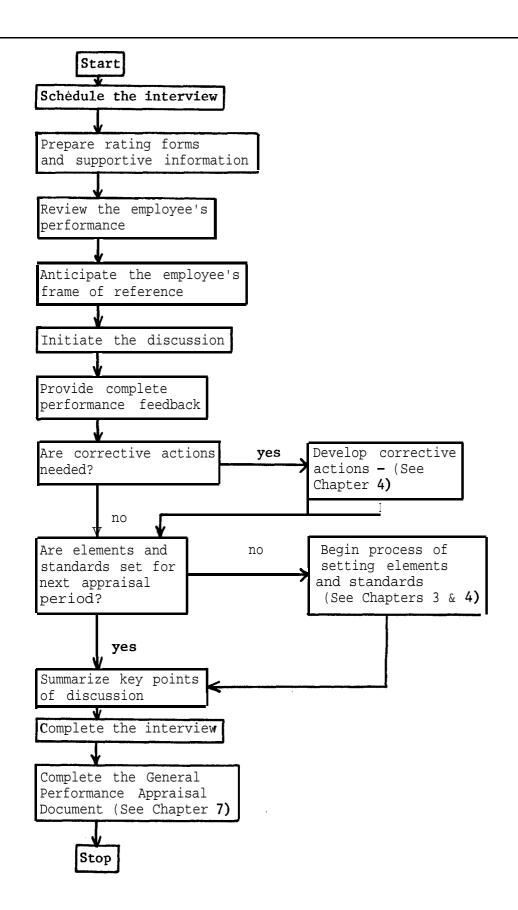
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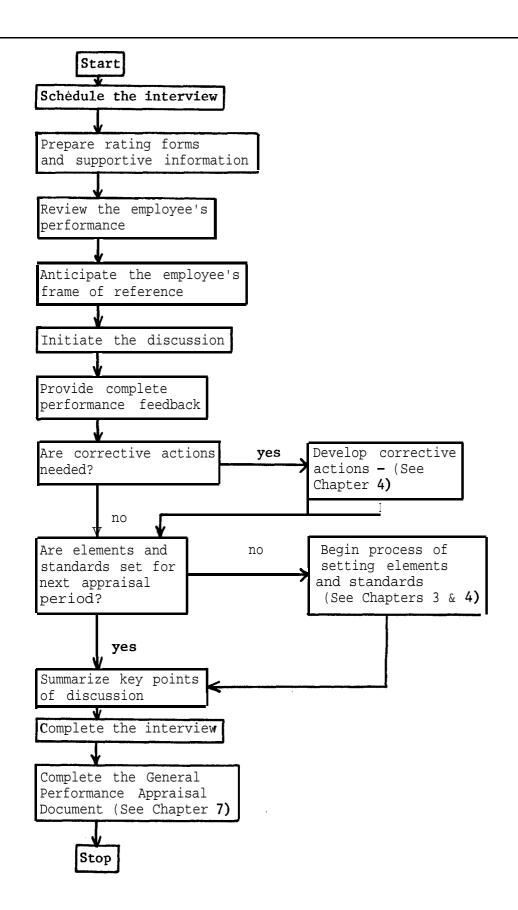
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### OVIDING FEEDBACK AND DIRECTION

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:ep is	employee his/her actual performance during the appraisal period.

The feedback lets the employee know how he/she is being rated on the job elements.

When conducting the interview, in general:

- **Encourage** the employee's participation
- Be an active listener
- Discuss the employee's performance, not the employee
- Be sincere
- Do not discuss irrelevant topics
- Avoid vagueness, displays of anger, being overly critical
- Do not compare one employee to another or discuss any other employee's rating

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Step	Procedure			
1.	Initiate the discussion by telling the employee the purposes of the interview:  • to review his/her performance  • to discuss his/her rating  • to discuss action to improve performance  • to plan next year's elements and standards			
2.	Conduct the interview, making sure you provide feedback on:			

(continued on next page)

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(continued on next page)

OVIDING FEEDBACK AND DIRECTION

Step	Procedure				
6.	<ul> <li>Complete the interview.</li> <li>Decide which option you will use to finalize the rating: <ul> <li>draft the rating, show it to the employee, show it to your supervisor, finalize the rating</li> <li>draft the rating, show it to your supervisor, show it to the employee, finalize the rating</li> <li>draft the rating, show it to your supervisor and the employee at the same time, finalize the rating</li> <li>finalize the rating without input from any other source</li> </ul> </li> <li>Inform the employee of his/her rights regarding any disagreements with the appraisal determinations.</li> <li>Tell the employee when he/she will be able to review and sign the appraisal document.</li> <li>Thank the employee for participating in the interview.</li> </ul>				
7.	Complete the performance appraisal document. Refer to Chapter 7 for steps to follow.				

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### CHAPTER 7

## Completing the General Performance Appraisal Document

### HAPTER OVERVIEW

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We have reviewed and discussed the employee's performance for the appraisal period. This chapter deals with completing the <a href="General Performance Appraisal Document">General Performance Appraisal Document</a>.

jectives

At the end of the chapter, **you** will be able to complete each of the following sections of the appraisal document:

I Employee/Supervisor Identification

II Supervisor Certification

III Second-Level Supervisor Review

IV Employee Certification
V Job Element Appraisal Form
VI Annual Performance Rating

VII Acceptable Level of Competence

VIII Recommendations

IX Remarks

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The performance appraisal  $\underline{\text{must}}$  be in writing with a copy provided to the employee.

nat the praisal cument used

The appraisal document is used to document the beginning and end of appraisal period discussions and the annual, performance rating for each covered employee. Together, the document's nine sections form the basis upon which various personnel actions may be recommended and/or initiated.

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cument

See the table on the next two pages for a description of the name and purpose of each section of the appraisal document.

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Following the table described above is Exhibit **8**, an example of a completed appraisal document. This is only a <u>sample</u>. You must create a unique document for each employee based upon their performance **standards**.

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Section	Title	Purpos	е
V	Job element appraisal form	Constitutes	• the job element appraisal form (1 per element)
	TOTIII	Identifies	<ul> <li>a job element important to the covered position</li> <li>the performance standard(s) for that element (lengthy standards may be attached)</li> </ul>
		Provides for	<ul> <li>the description of the employee's actual performance</li> <li>the rating of that performance on a 3-point scale</li> </ul>
VI	Annual performance rating	Provides for	computation of the annual performance rating
VII	Acceptable level of competence	Provides for	• the notice of acceptable level of competence determination for within-grade pay increases
VIII	Recommen- dations	Provides for	<ul> <li>recommendations for action on employees with an unsatisfac- tory annual performance rating</li> </ul>
IX	Remarks	Provides for	<ul> <li>first-level supervisor's additional comments</li> <li>second-level supervisor comments about appraisal determinations</li> <li>employee comments on appraisal determinations</li> </ul>

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	GENE	RAL PERFOR	MANC	E APPRAISAL D	OCUMENT			
Name	James P. Fixet	Title/Serie	l Danie at					To
	SECTION V -	•		AL AND OTHER) A		<u>                                       </u>	7/1/81	6/30/82
	INSTRUCTIONS: 1. Complete a Job E	•		•	ITRAIGALTO	IXIVI		
	•			tical job element must b	e at least 10% and	not more	than 100%.	
	·	-		is same as performance				
	4. A Job Element S	Score of 0 for any C	E REQU	IRES an annual perforn	nance rating of "U	nsatisfactor	ry."	
1.	1 2.	3. Job Element (Idea	ntify)		4	<b>-</b>		
	of 4 Dicje Doje	System Per	rforma	ince		Element	nportance of is 50	this _%.
5.	PERFORMANCE STANDARD( (Fully Acceptable Level)	s)	6. docu	(Use as many addition mentation of this job ele	E ACTUAL PER nal copies of Page ement. Draw horiz ach standard is des	2a as neces ontal linc a	sary to comp	lete ance under
1.	Performs 90% of all requi preventive maintenance ch system(s) assigned.		1. Log indicates that P.M. checks have increased to 80% from 65% identified during Periodic Progress Review 11/3/81. Still needs some improvement in P.M.					
2.	Performs preventive maint checks to the extent that availability/reliability national average.	system(s)	<ol> <li>Preventive maintenance performed at about the national average Improved performance compared to Periodic Progress Review 11/3/81.</li> </ol>					ınce
3.	Conducts all system(s) ce in accordance with establ policy.			All assigned sy certified accor				
4.	Logs and various records inspections, evaluations, and certifications are mato the extent that they a accurate representation of ity's/system's performance cated by supervisory judge	maintenand intained re an f a facil- e as indi-	t 7 1	ocumentation 1: based on my per Two minor break nave been avoid and documented	riodic revie downs in Ma led if P.M.	w of earch co checks	quipment uld poss	i. ibly
<b>7</b> . Job	Element Score (JES) is:	Fails to Meet Standard(s)	0	Meets Standa	rd(s) 1		Exceeds Standard	

	GENERAL F	ERFOR	MAN	ICE APPRAIS	SAL DO	CUMENT			
Name	James P. Fixet	Title/Serie Elect		e Los Technic	ian - 8	56-11	Appraisal Period	From 7/1/81	то 6/30/82
	INSTRUCTIONS:  1. Complete a Job Element A 2. The percent of relative im 3. Actual performance need 4. A Job Element Score of 0	Appraisal Fo	orm for f each i	each job elemen critical job elemen f it is same as perf	t. nt must be a formance sta	nt least 10% and andards.	not more t		
	, <u>1</u> 1 -	lement (Ide stem Pe		mance			Relative Im	portance of is 50	this _%.
5.	PERFORMANCE STANDARD(S) (Fully Acceptable Level)		6. do		y additiona is job elem	ACTUAL PER l copies of Page ent. Draw horiz h standard is des	2a as necess ontal line a	sary to comp	olete nance under
1.	Performs 90% of all required preventive maintenance checks system(s) assigned.	for	1. Log indicates that P.M. checks have increased to 80% from 65% identified during Periodic Progress Review 11/3/81. Still needs some improvement in P.M.					dic	
2.	Performs preventive maintenance checks to the extent that system availability/reliability meets national average.	em(s)	<ol> <li>Preventive maintenance performed at about the national average Improved performance compared to Periodic Progress Review 11/3/81.</li> </ol>					ance	
3.	Conducts all system(s) certific in accordance with established policy.	cation	3. All assigned systems/subsystems/equipment fully certified according to established policy.						
4.	Logs and various records of systems, evaluations, mains and certifications are maintain to the extent that they are an accurate representation of a faity's/system's performance as cated by supervisory judgment.	tenanc ned acil-	4.	Documentat: based on 1 Two minor have been and docume	ny peri breakd avoide	odic revie owns in Ma d if P.M.	w of edurch conchecks	quipment uld poss	t. sibly
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II	NSTRUCTIO	NS: 1. Complete a Job 2. The percent of a 3. Actual performa	Element Appraisal F	Form for for feach cr	each job element. itical job element must be t is same as performance JIRES an annual perform	e at least 10% an standards.	d not more than 1	<b>100</b> %.	
i. N	4	2.	3. Job Element (Ide On-the-job		ing		e Relative importa b Element is 10		
5.  PERFORMANCE STANDARD(S)  (Fully Acceptable Level)					(Use as many addition unentation of this job ele	E ACTUAL PE nal copies of Page ement. Draw hori nch standard is d	e 2a as necessary izontal line after	to complete performance	under
1.	employ the ne mainta as ind nician	wer-level technic ee is responsible cessary skills re in their assigned icated by each of s passing at leas inspection on each	e for acquirequired to d system(s), f the tech-st one sur-		All technicians on each system.	passed tw	o surprise	inspect	:ion:
2.	which gress	lower-level techn he/she acts as a to the full perfo level within 12	mentor pro- ormance tech	:	The three techniformance technic				
'. Job Eler	ment Score (	JES) is:	Fails to Meat Standard(s)	0	Meets Standard	☐ d(s) 1		xceeds tandard(s) 2	

			GEN	ERAL PERFOR	RMAN	CE APPRAISAL D	OCUM	IENT		
Name	James	P. F:	ixet	Title/Seri Elect	es/Grade Toni	cs Technician -	856-1	l 1	appraisal Fro Period 7/1/8	om To 1 6/30
11	NSTRUCTIO	2	. Complete a Job . The percent of a	Element Appraisal Felative importance o	Form for f each co	each job element. ritical job element must b it is same as performance UIRES an annual perfor	e at least standard	10% and no	ot more than 1009	%.
i. N	4	2.	CTE []KOTE	3. Job Element (Ide On-the-job	/	ning	4.		elative importance ement is 10	e of this
5.  PERFORMANCE STANDARD(S)  (Fully Acceptable Level)					6.	(Use as many addition umentation of this job el	nal copie ement. D	JAL PERFO	DRMANCE as necessary to c tal line after perj	omplete formance under
1.	employ the ne mainta as ind nician	ee is cessar in the icated s pass	y skills re	e for acquired to disystem(s), f the tech-st one sur-	1.	All technicians on each system.		ed two :	surprise in	nspection
2.	which gress	he/she to the		mentor pro- rmance tech		The three techn formance techni respectively.				
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		SECTION VIII -	RECOMMEN	IDATIONS		
PERSONNEL	ACTION(S)	RECOMMENDED	BASED ON	UNSATISFACTO	RY PERFORMANCE	
UNSATISFACTORY RATING  Reassignment	□Demo	tion	O Removal	Do	Other (Specify)	
		NIXREMARKS				

			SECTION VIII	- RECOMMEN	NDATIONS		
	PERSONNEL	ACTION(S)	RECOMMENDE	D BASED ON	UNSATISFACT	ORY PERFORMANCE	Ī
UNSATISFACTORY  Reassi		□Demo	tion	O Removal	۵	Other (Specify)	
		SECTION	NIX-REMARKS	6 (Use addition	nal sheet(s)if nee	ded.)	

# Completing the General Performance Appraisal Document

### SECTION II SUPERVISOR'S (RATING OFFICIAL) CERTIFICATION

When completed

At the conclusion of the rating cycle.

# How to complete this section

Item	Procedure
1.	Indicate the <u>period of time</u> during which you supervised the employee.
2.	Your <u>signature</u> certifies  • the performance appraisal is based on actual performance on the job which was compared to the performance standards previously established for each job element.

Note

If the rating official was changed during the appraisal period, refer to paragraph 15.g (3) of the order. It specifies the time period that must elapse before new supervisors may conduct and certify performance appraisals.

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SECTION V JOB ELEMENT APPRAISAL FORM

#### √hen

completed

The job element appraisal form must be completed after the employee has completed his/her performance on the job element for the appraisal period. One job element appraisal form <u>must</u> be completed for <u>each</u> of the employee's job elements.

Note

Before completing this section, the supervisor should note that:

- no more than 7 **CJEs** may be established for the appraisal period
- supervisory positions covered under the General Performance Appraisal System <u>must</u> include the following three CJEs:
  - Individual/Supervisory Responsibilities
  - Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity Accomplishments
  - Organizational Accomplishments
- Non-supervisory employees must have at least 1 CJE
- No job element may be assigned a percentage value of importance less than ten percent
- The total percentage value of all **CJEs** must equal a minimum of seventy-five percent of the total job
- No **OJE** may be assigned a percentage value equal to or greater than the lowest percentage value of any **CJE**

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ECTION V JOB ELEMENT APPRAISAL FORM

Step	Procedure
7.	Use the following scale to describe the employee's <pre>overall performance level on this job element.</pre> 0 - fails to meet standard(s) 1 - meets standard(s) 2 - exceeds standard(s)
	Consider the results of each standard and select the overall score that best describes the employee's overall performance on the total job element. Use the scores below:
	Score  Description Fails to meet standard. Assigned when an employee does not meet the level of performance expected by the supervisor as reflected in the performance standard.
	Note: If a job element score for any <b>CJE</b> is <b>0,</b> an <u>annual</u> performance rating of "unsatisfactory" <u>must</u> be assigned.
	Meets standard. Assigned when the employee's actual performance meets the level expected by the supervisor as reflected in the performance standard.
	Exceeds standard. Assigned when the employee's actual performance exceeds the level expected by the supervisor as reflected in the performance standard.

National standards may contain additional information concerning how to complete this section.

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SECTION VIII RECOMMENDATIONS

Note

This section <u>must</u> be completed for all employees receiving an **unsatisfactory** performance rating.

When completed

The section should be completed before the end of the annual performance interview.

How to complete this section

Procedure	
Meet with the employee to  • determine the cause for the less than acceptable performance  • identify action that can be taken to improve performance during the next appraisal period  When determining personnel actions, you should consider  • the severity and longevity of the performance weakness  • the result of any actions you previously initiated	
Decide	
If	Then
further assistance will help to improve the employee's performance	recommend action such as  • closer supervision • counseling • training (see Step 4)
further assistance will probably not help to improve the emp-ployee's performance	see your Labor Relations-or Personnel Specialist
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SECTION IX REMARKS

When this section is completed

When the	is	and wants to make these types of comments:
Supervisor	preparing the appraisal	<ul> <li>Recommend training for an unsatisfactory performer</li> <li>Remarks from Section VII concerning certification of an acceptable level of competence</li> <li>Other comments</li> </ul>
Second-level Supervisor	reviewing the appraisal	<ul> <li>Agreements or disagreement!</li> <li>with any part of the         appraisal document or process</li> <li>Other comments</li> </ul>
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## Append ix A

### **UICK** SUMMARY OF PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL STEPS

#### Introduction

Once you have read this Desk Guide and performed all of the procedures it describes, you will no longer need the level of detail presented in the **preceeding** seven chapters. This appendix provides you with a quick summary of all the steps — and their respective evaluation checklists. You can use it to guide you through the appraisal process once you know how to do all of the steps.

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## \ppendix A

## ANALYZING THE EMPLOYEE'S POSITION

Summary of procedures for inalyzing the employee's position

Step	Procedure
6.	• In what way does a specific task, activity and/or duty contribute to the accomplish- ment of the mission of the work unit?
	• In what way does a particular task, activity and/or duty contribute to the realization of the intent and purpose for which the position exists?
	<ul> <li>What type of work assignments do I most often hold the employee accountable for accomplishing?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Are there certain aspects of the position which I stress more often than others, not at all, or very little, when making work assignments or discussing performance achievements?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Has the employee during the past year had the opportunity to engage in all the tasks, activities and/or duties identified in the position description?</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Will the employee have work assignments during the up-coming year which encompass the tasks, activities and/or duties I consider important?</li> </ul>
	<ul><li>What are the consequences of inadequate performance on the job?</li></ul>
7.	List the job elements.
8.	Determine if the number of job elements is 7 or less. If it is, skip to #11.
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# Appendix A writing and communicating performance standards

Summary of procedures for writing and communicating performance standards	Step	Procedure
	1.	<ul> <li>Determine if there are pre-determined standards.</li> <li>if there are pre-determined standards, they must by used. However, in some instances local supplementation is permitted.</li> <li>if you use pre-determined standards skip steps 2 and 3, but you must complete steps 4, 5 and 6.</li> </ul>
	2.	Prepare you employees to participate in the standard setting process.  - if they prepare a draft of their standards, they will need a copy of the appropriate section of these guidelines and perhaps some training and assistance.
	3.	Write the performace standards for your employee.  a. Select a job element.  b. Decide on the required level of performance for the element.  c. Review the criteria of a good standard in Table 1.  d. Write a standard using
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## **INDUCTING PERFORMANCE REVIEWS**

<pre>ummary of teps or conducting</pre>	Step	Procedure
or conducting erformance eviews .ssessing erformance	Optional .	Begin collecting data on employee progress towards the standards immediately after assigning accountability for the standard.  - the data should reflect demonstrated progress  - some of the data can be collected by the employee on some form of tally sheet which should be checked periodically by the supervisor  - data collected by the supervisor should be based on observed performance.
	2.	Wait until the employee has had sufficient time to demonstrate performance in one or more of the job elements. Then, compare the employee's actual performance to the fully acceptable standard of performance.
	3.	Use the second column of the <a href="Periodic Progress">Periodic Progress</a> Review Worksheet (PPRW) to record the employee's actual performance.  - record the actual performance in the same measurable terms that were used to define the standard  - if a standard is not applicable, record the reason in Column 2.
	4.	Note the employee's strengths and weaknesses in Column 2 <i>next</i> to the appropriate standard. If all standards are met, skip to step 10.
Taking planned corrective action	5•	Identify the standards which the employee failed to meet.

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Taking planned corrective action	5•	Identify the standards which the employee failed to meet.

	Step	Procedure
Revising performance standards	8.	Develop, with participation from the employee, action plans for improving the employee's performance.
	9.	Document the action plans. This means:  • write the plan(s) on plain paper or on the periodic progress review worksheet  • date and sign the plan  • have the employee sign the plan  • give a copy to the employee  • note on your copy the date the employee received the copy  • retain your copy, along with the position description, for one year after completion of the General Performance Appraisal Document for that appraisal period.
	10.	Determine if any of an employee's performance standards need to be revised (changed, added or dropped). If none of the standards need to be revised, skip to step 13.  A revision might be necessary if there have been changes in the organization's or work group's,  mission, goals, objectives  priorities timeliness resource allocations
	11.	Revise, with participation from the employee, the appropriate performance standards.  Follow the steps outlined in Chapter 3.
		Document the action plans. This means:  • write the revisions on plain paper or on the GPAD form  • date and sign the document  • have the employee sign the document  • give a copy to the employee  • note on your copy the date the employee received the copy  • retain your copy, along with the position description, for one year after completion of the General Performance Appraisal Document for that appraisal period.

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# Appendix A

## CONDUCTING PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

Summary of evaluation checklists for conducting performance reviews	<ul> <li>□ Employee has had time to demonstrate performance standard.</li> <li>□ Actual performance observed.</li> <li>□ Actual performance recorded on plain paper or optiona worksheet.</li> <li>Cl Employee strengths and weaknesses noted on plain pape or optional worksheet.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Taking Planned Corrective Action</li> <li>□ Standards identified where actual performance is below the supervisor's requirement.</li> <li>Cl Causes of performance problem identified.</li> <li>Cl Causes separated into employee-related and environment-related causes.</li> <li>□ Action strategies selected for each cause.</li> <li>□ Action plans developed to improve employee performance for each standard not met.</li> </ul>
	Revising Performance Standards  Refer to Chapter 4.  Meeting to Review Progress
	□ Actual performance observations noted. □ Strong and weak areas of performance noted. □ *Corrective action plans to improve performance developed. □ *Performance standards revised. Cl Meeting time and location scheduled. □ Relevant topics discussed. □ Meeting results documented.

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates step may not be required for some employees.

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	□ Actual performance observations noted. □ Strong and weak areas of performance noted. □ *Corrective action plans to improve performance developed. □ *Performance standards revised. Cl Meeting time and location scheduled. □ Relevant topics discussed. □ Meeting results documented.

<sup>\*</sup>Indicates step may not be required for some employees.

# Appendix A

## CONDUCTING PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

Summary of evaluation checklists for conducting performance reviews	<ul> <li>□ Employee has had time to demonstrate performance standard.</li> <li>□ Actual performance observed.</li> <li>□ Actual performance recorded on plain paper or optiona worksheet.</li> <li>Cl Employee strengths and weaknesses noted on plain pape or optional worksheet.</li> </ul>
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Step	Procedure
7.	Decide if corrective action is needed to improve performance.  If not, skip to Step 8.  If corrective action is needed, refer to Chapter 5, Pages 66-68, for steps to follow.  Determine how you will monitor these corrective actions to assure that they are accomplished.
8.	Decide if the job elements and performance standards are set for the next appraisal period.  If they are set, skip to Step 9.  Otherwise, begin the process of determining job elements and performance standards for the next appraisal period.  Refer to Chapters 3 and 4 for steps to follow.
9.	<ul> <li>Summarize the key points of the discussion.</li> <li>Summarize your overall ratings.</li> <li>Summarize the details of any specific action to be taken.</li> <li>Identify those areas where special attention should be directed during the next appraisal period.</li> <li>Summarize any recommendations or remarks you plan to make.</li> </ul>
10.	Complete the interview.  Inform the employee of his/her rights regarding any disagreements with the appraisal determinations.  Tell the employee when he/she will be able to review and sign the appraisal document.  Thank the employee for participating in the interview.
11.	Complete the GPAD. Refer to Chapter 7 for steps to follow.

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## **LEQUIREMENTS**FORDOCUMENTINGANDMAINTAININCRECORDS

introduction	This appendix describes the requirements for documenting the appraisal process and maintaining these records.
leference	The records identified below must be maintained in accordance with Section 3, Order 3290.3C, Official Personnel Records.

Record	Requirements	
Job Elements and Performance Standards	• Copies of elements and performance standards shall be furnished to the employee and maintained by the immediate supervisor along with the position description. No specific form is required, and plain paper may be used. The supervisor shall note on his/her copy the date the employee was furnished copies.	
	*When job elements and/or standards are revised, the outdated copies shall be retained by the immediate supervisor for one year after completion of the annual performance rating for that appraisal period,	
Documentation of Progress Reviews	*Results of periodic meetings between the employee and the supervisor during the appraisal period must be documented and a copy provided to the employee. The supervisor must obtain the signature of the employee as an indication of receipt of the copy.	
	• The Periodic Progress Review Worksheet or plain paper may be used for this documentation.	
	• The supervisor should note on his/her copy the date the employee was furnished a copy and should retain the copy for one year after completion of the annual performance rating for that appraisal period.	
Annual Performance Appraisal Document	<ul> <li>Copies of the completed form shall go to the employee and the servicing personnel office for inclusion in the employee's Official Personnel Folder.</li> </ul>	

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## HOW PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL LINKS WITH OTHER PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Action	How It, Relates	Components
Reduction- In-Force (RIF)	OPM regulations require that additional service credit of up to four years for RIF purposes shall be given to employees based upon their current performance appraisal.	(see table below)

How much additional service credit an employee receives

If the employee's total performance appraisal score is between	
0 - 1.00* 1.01 - 1.25 1.26 - 1.50 1.51 - 1.74 1.75 - 2.00	No credit 1 year 2 years 3 years 4 years

<sup>\*</sup>or an "unsatisfactory" rating based on failure to meet the standard(s) for any CJE.

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### PARTIAL EXAMPLE

Position: Motor Vehicle Operator

Series: WG-5703

Work Tasks

Grade:

Job Element(s)

I Vehicle Operation (CJE)

Performance

Standards

(From Position Description)

A. Operates gasoline, diesel, or electric vehicles with gross vehicle weight of up to **7,000** pounds.

Vehicle Operation
(CJE)

variety of vehicles, judging distances and clearances, determining best routes to take, and moving cargo or passengers as judged by the supervisor.

1. Skillfully drives a

- 2. Assignments are carried out in an expeditious manner within the agreedupon time frames 95% of the time.
- 3. Reportable incidents limited to two per year. (Degree of negligence will be considered).

B. Performs daily preventive maintenance to assure proper care of government vehicles. II Preventive
'Maintenance (CJE)

# II Preventive Maintenance (CJE)

- 1. Performs preventive maintenance check daily before operating vehicle.
- Corrects all deficiencies not requiring mechanical knowledge.
- 3. Informs the supervisor within 2 hours of any malfunction of vehicle.
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- ACCEPTABLE LEVEL OF COMPETENCE DETERMINATION reflects whether or not an employee has performed the duties and responsibilities of his/her position at a fully acceptable level during the appropriate waiting period or any other period of time established as appropriate for a determination. It is the basis for granting or denying within-grade pay increases. Appendix 4 of Order 3400 contains detailed procedures for making acceptable level of competence determinations.
- ANNUAL PERFORMANCE RATING is the term (Outstanding, Fully Acceptable, or Unsatisfactory) which summarizes the employee's performance during the appraisal period. The rating is assigned by the immediate supervisor in Section VI of the General Performance Appraisal Document.
- APPRAISAL **PERIOD** is the period of time established in an appraisal system for which an employee's performance will be reviewed.
- COVERED EMPLOYEE is an individual who occupies a position in the General Schedule or Federal Wage System which is either:
  - below grade 13; or
  - grade 13 and above but NOT in the merit pay or senior executive service systems.
- COVERED SUPERVISOR is an individual who 'is classified at no higher than **GS-12** and properly classified under the Supervisory Grade Evaluation Guide **(SGEG)** as "supervisory"; or is classified under the Job Grading Standard for Supervisors (for Federal Wage System employees) as "supervisory."
- CRITICAL JOB ELEMENTS **(CJEs)** are any components of a job of sufficient importance that performance below the minimum standard established by management requires remedial action and **denial of** a within-grade increase, and which may be the basis for reassigning, demoting, or removing the employee. Such actions may be taken without regard to the level of performance in other elements of the job.
- DAYS means calendar days unless otherwise indicated.
- IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR is the first level of supervision over the employee being rated which has the responsibilities of assigning performance appraisals and recommending awards. This person is also identified as the rating official.
- OTHER JOB ELEMENTS **(OJEs)** are duties, functions and responsibilities of the position that are significant but do not meet the critical job element definition.
- PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL is a written assessment of an employee's actual performance in comparison to performance standards established for critical and other job elements of the position.

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# SUPERVISOR'S DESK GUIDE

for the Federal Aviation Administration's General Performance Appraisal System

